

PROVIDING FOR LONGEVITY CREDIT FOR ENLISTED
MEN OF THE NAVAL AND MARINE CORPS RESERVE

MARCH 27 (legislative day, March 5), 1942.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. WALSH, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, submitted the
following

REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 4869]

The Committee on Naval Affairs, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 4869) to provide for longevity credit for enlisted men of the Naval and Marine Corps Reserve, and for other purposes, having considered the same, report favorably thereon with amendments and recommend that the bill as amended do pass.

Amend the bill as follows:

Page 1, line 4, after "Marine Corps Reserve," insert the word "and".

Page 1, line 4, after "National Guard" strike out the comma and insert the words "of the United States".

Page 1, line 5, strike out the words "and the Army Reserves".

Page 1, line 6, after the word "service" and before the comma, insert the words "since June 30, 1925".

Page 1, line 7, after the words "Naval Reserve" insert a comma and strike out the word "or".

Page 1, line 8, after the word "Reserve" insert the following:
and the National Guard: *Provided*, That warrant officers and enlisted men of the National Guard of the United States shall not be credited for this purpose with time served in the inactive National Guard not in the active Federal service.

Amend the title so as to read:

A bill to provide for longevity credit for enlisted men of the Naval Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, and the National Guard of the United States, and for other purposes.

SECTION 1

This section, as reported to the House of Representatives by the House Committee on Naval Affairs, authorized warrant officers and enlisted men of the Naval Reserve and the Marine Corps Reserve to count for longevity-pay purposes all service, both active and inactive, in the Naval Reserve, and the Marine Corps Reserve.

The bill was amended in the House by extending this authority to the National Guard and the Army Reserves; and to warrant officers of all the Reserve establishments.

The War Department recommended to the Senate Committee on Naval Affairs that (1) all reference to the Army Reserves be eliminated from the bill and (2) that the reference to the National Guard be clarified.

In connection with (1) the War Department informed the Committee that the Enlisted Reserve Corps of the Army performed practically no actual service while on an inactive status and recommended that the bill be amended so that the members of the Army Reserves would not receive longevity credit for time spent in an inactive status.

With reference to (2) the War Department recommended that the bill distinguish between members of the inactive State National Guard (while not in the active Federal service) who perform no service in that status, and the active State National Guard (while not in the Federal service) who perform services comparable to those performed by members of the Naval Reserve and the Marine Corps Reserve on an inactive status. The War Department is of the opinion that the warrant officers and enlisted men who come within the former category should not receive longevity credit for the time spent in an inactive status.

The committee amended section 1 to conform to the recommendations of the War Department.

Commissioned officers of the Naval Reserve and Marine Corps Reserve receive full-time longevity credit for all commissioned service in the Reserve, since June 30, 1925, whether active or inactive, whereas warrant officers and enlisted men receive no credit for inactive service or for active service for training. It appears only equitable that warrant officers and enlisted men should be permitted to count, for pay purposes, service which commissioned officers may count for that purpose.

The committee also amended section 1 so that the service to be counted for longevity credit would be that accruing after June 30, 1925.

SECTION 2

The purpose of this section is to amend section 316 of the Naval Reserve Act of 1938 (52 Stat. 1185) with reference to the composition of the Naval Reserve Policy Board.

The composition of the Naval Reserve Policy Board, under existing law, must consist of at least one-half Naval Reserve officers called to perform duty on this Board from an inactive-duty status. This is a desirable situation during peacetimes. It is impracticable, however, during war or national emergency to obtain qualified officers who are on an inactive-duty status. The bill permits Naval Reserve officers to be employed on this duty when they are in an active-duty status.

The bill has been cleared by the Bureau of the Budget.

The following letter from the Secretary of the Navy to the chairman of the House Naval Affairs Committee is hereby made a part of this report.

NAVY DEPARTMENT,
Washington, October 1, 1941.

The CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON NAVAL AFFAIRS,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

MY DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The bill (H. R. 4869) to provide for longevity credit for enlisted men of the Naval and Marine Corps Reserve, was referred to the Navy Department by your committee with request for views and recommendation.

The purpose of the bill H. R. 4869 is to authorize enlisted men of the Naval Reserve and Marine Corps Reserve to count for longevity-pay purposes all service, both active and inactive, in the Naval Reserve or Marine Corps Reserve.

Commissioned officers of the Naval Reserve and Marine Corps Reserve receive full-time longevity credit for all commissioned service in the Reserve, since June 30, 1925, whether active or inactive, whereas warrant officers and enlisted men receive no credit for inactive service or for active service for training. It appears only equitable that warrant officers and enlisted men should be permitted to count, for pay purposes, service which commissioned officers may count for that purpose.

It is recommended that the bill H. R. 4869 be amended to include warrant officers by inserting in line 3 after the word "hereafter" the words "warrant officers and".

No worth-while estimate of cost can be submitted without examination of the individual records of reservists.

The Navy Department recommends that the bill H. R. 4869, amended as suggested above, be enacted.

The Navy Department has been advised by the Bureau of the Budget that there would be no objection to the submission of this recommendation.

Sincerely yours,

FRANK KNOX.

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